

SUMMER 2005

# *Sewell Neighborhood News*

SEWELL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER BY KEN KEPPLER

Hello Sewell Neighbors,

Summer is here and the heat is on and our winter visitors are away for a few months making it a little easier for dining out. I would not want to live in any other place than Tucson, well maybe Hawaii!

I would like to thank everyone who was able to attend our last general meeting and for bringing all the great food and drinks for our taco potluck. Everyone had a great time eating and visiting. Let's grab a new neighbor and bring them to our next meeting and introduce them to the Sewell family.

What is the difference between a Neighborhood Association and a Homeowners Association?

A Neighborhood Association is a voluntary group that is formed to provide a unified voice within the city in regards to issues that concern our rights as citizens within the city of Tucson.

Homeowner Associations require you to pay yearly dues and they control what you can and can't do to your home such as what color to paint it or what type of screen door you can install or how many cars can be parked in front of your house.

Don't get me wrong, Homeowner Associations have their place. Sewell neighborhood is a Neighborhood Association.

We have a strong association and it is imperative that we all get involved and come to our group meetings.

NEXT SNA  
GENERAL MEETING  
~~~~~  
SEPTEMBER, 2005  
LOOK FOR DETAILS IN  
UPCOMING MAILINGS.

Over the last couple of weeks our email list serve has proven to be a very valuable tool for communicating in our neighborhood. Recently on a very windy day Sally Hansen's new table umbrella flew out of her yard and disappeared. She sent out a

request for help on the list serve and within a couple of hours she got a response and was able to pickup her umbrella. She was thankful that we have the list serve in place and said it couldn't have happened without it.

Did you hear about a new mother cat with kittens that lost their owners? There were several responses from concerned neighbors that are willing to donate money for the spaying of the mother. It makes me proud to be a member of this great neighborhood and I would like to thank all of you who have stepped up to help eliminate this growing problem in our neighborhood and throughout the city regarding unwanted litters of domestic animals.

Anyone that wishes to be added to our email list serve can contact our list serve manager. Contact information is provided in this newsletter.

I look forward to our fall meeting after the summer break and I wish everyone a safe and happy summer.

Best regards,  
Ken Keppler,  
President  
Sewell Neighborhood  
Association

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Many of us do not stop pursuing our interests in plants and flowers and gardens when the sun goes down, or when the temperature outside is 105+ degrees. Rather, we jump on the WEB to search for names or pictures or even new species of plants.

Here are a couple of my favorite sites that I've found helpful:

The USDA site:

<http://plants.usda.gov/classification.html>

is particularly useful by providing a huge botanical taxonomy, searchable by all 10 orders of classification from *Plantae* to *Species*, as well as by common name.

(However, efficacy of the latter is somewhat problematical since your grandmother's common name for that favorite plant is not necessarily known to USDA botanists.)

To try to identify an Arizona flower I've never seen before, I often peruse the sites resulting from a Google search of, say, "Wildflowers AZ."

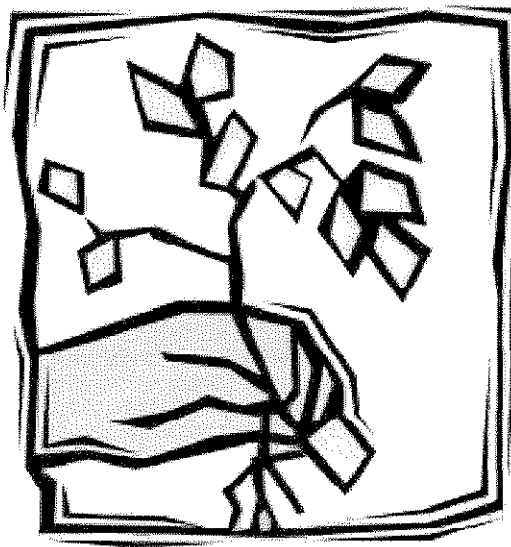
This always results in a very impressive number of "hits". Even more astonishing is the number of mediocre and just plain terrible WEB sites that come up although there are a few gems, too.

An example of an outstanding site is:

<http://www.fireflyforest.com/flowers/>

authored by one T. Beth Kinsey. Complete in its names, descriptions and top-notch photographic images this site is a perfect reference for its title subject: "**Tucson Wildflowers.**"

Nearly 300 species of local flowers are offered in a well designed, easily navigable presentation that is truly a delight to browse.



The main menu allows searches by six flower colors, scientific names, common names, family names, and, most unusually, plant types!

There is even a page of "Poisonous Tucson Plants" and several pages of links to closely related (Tucson flowers) WEB sites.

According to the short biography Ms Kinsey is a student (UA ?) studying Molecular Biology (?) and appears to be quite a modest person.

The only place in the entire complex site where her name appears is at the bottom of the main menu next to the copyright information in small type!

Have fun browsing!

BY MICHAEL SERRES

It seems this Summer issue of the Sewell Neighborhood Association Newsletter has lots of references to technology. Ken's front page story references our SNA listserv, which is a great way to communicate with others in the neighborhood, ask questions (e.g. need a good plumber?), help a stray family of kittens, and myriad other uses. (See below to sign up!)

Athol's article on page two references Web sites of interest to our neighbors with green thumbs (or, if you're like me, aspiring to turn my thumb a bit greener).

And I want to tell you about another Web site which offers tons of great (and important) information to everyone in our neighborhood. It's the site for the City of Tucson's Police Department. Take a quick visit to the home page, at:

<http://www.ci.tucson.az.us/police/>

Here you'll find everything from crime statistics (which may be cus-

tomized by neighborhood, street or other geographic area) to an area for kids, to a list of services (everything from recovering your stolen bicycle to planning a block party in your neighborhood).

The site also provides valuable advice on a number of topics near and dear to all of us, including crime prevention tips detailing how to lower the risk of getting your car stolen, your house broken into, or becoming a victim of an assault or mugging.

Of course, the site also offers contact information, and there's even an online form for reporting non-emergency crimes.

Take a few minutes (it may turn into a bit longer once you start looking around) to visit the City of Tucson Police Department's site. Who knows?

The information you find there might someday prevent a burglary or save a life!



## SEWELL NEIGHBORHOOD IS "HIGH-TECH!"

One of the tools we use as neighbors to better communicate with each other - along with meetings, newsletters, postcards and flyers - is an email "listserv."

A listserv is simply a "group" email service that allows all those who sign up for the service to share information with everyone else on the list at the same time. So, if you want to let people know about suspicious activity around the neighborhood, or even ask for a recipe, you can send one email to the listserv, and ALL subscribers will receive it!

If you're interested in signing up for the Sewell Neighborhood Listserv, please email Mike Serres and request to be added. His email address is: [mserres@hotmail.com](mailto:mserres@hotmail.com)

And visit the Sewell Neighborhood Web site:

**[www.sewellneighborhood.org](http://www.sewellneighborhood.org)**

## BECOME A MEMBER OF THE SNA!

Please consider joining the Sewell Neighborhood Association. Membership dues are only \$5 annually. Bring your dues to the next meeting, or drop them off with the SNA treasurer, Mike Serres, 5738 East Holmes Street. Also, please remember it's time to renew your membership for 2005.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

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# SEWELL NEIGHBORHOOD

**Dated Material**

## SEWELL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION BOARD

### Executive Committee

Ken Keppler, President, 747-9103  
Mary Wright, Secretary, 745-8336  
Mike Serres, Treasurer, 514-8740

### WELCOME NEWCOMERS!

We personally deliver to you a free packet of information, maps, dining, shopping, history of Tucson, coupons and discounts from local Tucson merchants.

We are a small arm of the Chamber of Commerce and would like to share our love of Tucson with you.

If you are a newcomer to Tucson or are a new resident in the area, call your "welcome newcomer" representative, Ruth at 571-9530

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## SEWELL NEIGHBORHOOD 2005 MEETING SCHEDULE

|           |                  |
|-----------|------------------|
| April 20  | Board meeting    |
| May 18    | General meeting  |
| June 15   | Board meeting    |
| July      | Off for summer   |
| August 17 | Board meeting    |
| Sept 21   | Location TBA     |
| Oct 19    | Board meeting    |
| Nov 16    | Location TBA     |
| Dec       | Off for Holidays |

General meetings held at 7 p.m. in the Sewell school cafeteria. Board meetings held at 6 p.m. at the Keppler's house (5756 E. Burns St.) Check SNA website for updated info. ([www.sewellneighborhood.org](http://www.sewellneighborhood.org)) We'll also send out reminders for general meetings.